

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

JUNETEENTH DAY

JUNE 19, 2023

- WHEREAS,** *Juneteenth has come to symbolize for many African Americans what the Fourth of July means for all Americans – Freedom. It serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Juneteenth is one of a number of “freedom day” celebrations commemorating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863...and celebrates the notification of the last enslaved people on Galveston, Texas by General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865, almost two and half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Throughout our nation, Juneteenth is celebrated annually as a historical and memorable tribute to our country’s African American Heritage; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is proud to join our nation in honoring Juneteenth in an effort to promote and enhance the unity and spiritual strength that brought African Americans out of slavery and sustained their dignity and prosperity to the present day.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim JUNE 19, 2023 as JUNETEENTH DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of June
Two Thousand and twenty-three

[Signature]
Governor

Wes Moore

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State